

AMENDMENT

Please amend the claims as indicated below (A marked-up copy of each claim showing the amendments is enclosed in Exhibit A):

Kindly cancel claims 28 and 31.

Please amend claims 27 and 29 as follows:

27. (amended) A process for individually regulating the temperatures of a plurality of workstations each to an individual predetermined temperature, each workstation for performing an operation on work medium at said workstation, comprising the steps of:

- providing a temperature controlling fluid from a source to each of the plurality of workstations,
- monitoring the temperature at each individual workstation, and
- independently controlling heating of the fluid provided to each individual station in accordance with information comprising a differential between the predetermined temperature and a temperature at each of the respective workstations;

wherein the temperature of at least one workstation is controlled by:

- determining a temperature differential between the temperature of the workstation and the individual predetermined temperature, and
- selecting an operating sequence based on the temperature differential, so that when the temperature differential is above a predetermined value, an amount of the fluid is transported to the workstation through a bypass conduit that bypasses a heater corresponding to the workstation, and when the temperature differential is below a predetermined value, the heater corresponding to the workstation is modulated in order to maintain the temperature of the workstation without bypassing the heater.

29. (amended) A temperature control system for individually regulating the temperatures of a plurality of semiconductor workstations, the temperature control system comprising:

a central source of a temperature regulating fluid in flow communication with each of the plurality of workstations for transporting fluid to each workstation and independently controlling temperature at each workstation,

a plurality of heaters, each heater being associated with a workstation in a manner effective to heat the fluid transported to one of the individual workstations from the central source, whereby the temperature of the fluid provided to each workstation is controlled independently of fluid transported to other workstations of the system,

a bypass conduit for at least one of the workstations, the bypass conduit allowing the fluid transported to said workstation to bypass the heater corresponding to the particular workstation,

a temperature differential determining system capable of determining the differential between the temperature of the workstation and an individual predetermined temperature, and

a temperature controller capable of selecting an operating sequence based on the temperature differential, so that when the temperature differential is above a predetermined value, an amount of the fluid is transported to the workstation through a bypass conduit that bypasses a heater corresponding to the workstation, and when the temperature differential is below a predetermined value, the heater corresponding to the workstation is modulated in order to maintain the temperature of the workstation without bypassing the heater.

32. (new) A process of claim 27, wherein the bypass conduit transports an increased rate of flow of the fluid to the workstation.

33. (new) A temperature control system of claim 29, wherein the bypass conduit transports an increased rate of flow of the fluid to the workstation.